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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 017534-000730US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

RODNEY A. PERKINS et al.

Application No.: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: METHODS, SYSTEMS, AND KITS  
FOR LUNG VOLUME REDUCTION

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY REMARKS**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following remarks.

**REMARKS**

This application is a continuation of application no. 09/606,320, filed on June 28, 2000, which was a continuation-in-part of application no. 09/347,032, filed on July 2, 1999. The text of the specification of the present application is identical to that of application no. 09/347,032, and it is respectfully submitted that all claims herein are fully supported by the July 2, 1999, filing.

Claims 1 and 2 herein have been copied from claims 9 and 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,258,100, which issued on July 10, 2001, from an application filed on October 10, 2000, and which claimed to be a divisional of application no. 09/379,972, filed on August 24, 1999.

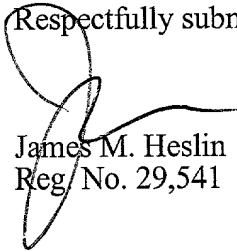
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PATENT

It is believed that all claims herein are entitled to an earlier priority date than that of the claims in the '100 patent.

If for any reason the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would in any way expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James M. Heslin  
Reg/ No. 29,541

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